

Amend **claim 1** as follows:

An isolated expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:9, wherein the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:9 hydroxylates the 24-position of an oleanane-type triterpene.

Amend **claim 3** as follows:

A microorganism transformed with the expression vector of claim 1.

Amend **claim 5** as follows:

The microorganism of claim 3, wherein the microorganism is a yeast.

Amend **claim 6** as follows:

An isolated co-expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:9 and a β -amyrin synthase gene.

Amend **claim 8** as follows:

A microorganism transformed with the expression vector of claim 6.

Amend **claim 10** as follows:

The microorganism of claim 8, wherein the microorganism is a yeast.

Amend **claims 12 and 13** as follows:

Replace --- transformant --- with --- microorganism ---.

Amend **claim 14** as follows:

A method for hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane-type triterpene, comprising culturing the microorganism of claim 3 in the presence of an oleanane-type triterpene, thereby hydroxylating the 24-position of the oleanane-type triterpene.

Amend **claim 15** as follows:

A method for hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane-type triterpene, comprising culturing the microorganism of claim 8 in the presence of an oleanane-type triterpene, thereby hydroxylating the 24-position of the oleanane-type triterpene.

Amend **claim 16** as follows:

A method for hydroxylating the 24-position of an oleanane-type triterpene, comprising culturing the yeast mutant strain of claim 11 in the presence of an oleanane-type triterpene, thereby hydroxylating the 24-position of the oleanane-type triterpene.